

11 May 1970

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Activities Interpretation Division, FMSAC

ATTENTION :

THROUGH : Chief, Requirements Branch, Reconnaissance Group, IRS

SUBJECT : Type IIIC Silo Doors
NPIC Project 250747
C-DSO-86,197

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1. This memorandum is in response to your requirement which requests interpretive data on the method of construction of the type IIIC silo door.

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2. The available photographic coverage of the type IIIC silo door under construction has not permitted a definitive interpretation of construction methods. However, the coverage does provide information on the basic components and permits a provisional interpretation of assembly methods. A dimensional line drawing, an exploded view of the silo door, and an annotated photograph are attached.

3. The silo door is fabricated from five major metal subassemblies of box-type construction. The exploded view illustrates the probable method of assembly (attachment 1).

a. Construction of the silo door begins with the preparation of the square mound to the rear of the silo headworks excavation. The mound is leveled; prefabricated paving blocks are then temporarily emplaced. On the prepared surface, two rows of crossties are emplaced to support the temporary silo door rails upon which the silo door is constructed. When the silo door is fully assembled, the area to the rear of the headworks is backfilled. The temporary door rails are then connected to the silo door rails by short rail sections. The silo door is then rolled forward onto the silo headworks. After the silo door is in place on the headworks of the silo, the paving blocks and rails upon which it was constructed are removed from the site.

b. The five main elements of the door illustrated in attachment 1 are:

- (1) the front beam and lower front box section,
- (2) the center box section,
- (3) the rear beam, bevel, and rear box section, and
- (4 and 5) the two side box beam sections.

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4. The thickness of the box sections as shown in attachment 2 is approximate, due to the limited data base (number and quality of observation). All other dimensions are within the standard accuracy of plus

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5. The method used to cover the center portion of the door structure has not been observed. One possibility is that if any concrete is used in the door structure (either poured or prefabricated), this center portion could be the area in which it is placed. The completed structure would then be capped by metal sheets or a concrete finish coat.

6. Attachment 1 is not drawn to scale. Dimensions should be taken from attachment 2 only, which reflects the most accurate information available.

Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group,
NPIC

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Attachments:
a/s

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